55,712 ,MW, it is assessed that there would ,be no all-India energy shortages and peak deficit would be only 0.3%. The exercise for the Ninth Plan has been undertaken. The preliminary analysis shows the total investment requirements in generation transmission and distribution schemes and including investments by the private sector to be around Rs.3 lakh crores. The State-wise requirements could be indicated only after the finalisation of the Ninth Plan,

Shortfall in Crude Oil Production

698. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there would be huge shortfall in crude oil production;

(b) if so, how much shortage would be there and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that this would lead to a massive increase in oil import bill;

(d) if so, the expected oil import bill; and

(e) whether Government are considering a further hike in the prices of • petro-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU): (a) and (b) The crude oil production during the 8th Plan is estimated to be about 155 MMT against the orignal Planning Commission's target of 197.31 MMT. However, this target was subsequently revised to 169.45 MMT by mid 1993. The reasons for the shortfall in production are—

(i) Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of BRBC, especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behavior, not in conformity with earlier predictions.

(ii) Oil fields entering the natural declining phase.

(iii) Reduced production from joint venture projects.

(iv) Consfrainst in operating conditions on account of law and order problems and insurgency in NE region.

(v) Stoppage of work in Nagaland.

(vi) Frequent power shutdown in Western & Eastern Region affected artificial lift operations.

(c) and (d) The import bill depends on the consumption, indigenous production and prices of crude oil and petroleum products prevailing in the international market.

(e) The position of the oil pool account is monitored on a continuous basis and remedial measures taken to contain the deficit.

Rest Areas along National Highways

699. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Rest Areas along the National Highways jointly with the Department of Tourism;

(b) whether any such joint Rest Areas have been set up;

(c) whether Government have examined the need for such Rest Areas and roadside amenities in Andhra Pradesh in 1995-96;

(d) if so, details of such a survey; and

(e) whether it is a fact that oil companies have not shown any initiative in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Surface Transport, Government of India, had mooted a Scheme for setting up Passenger Oriented Wayside Amenities